

**REMARKS**

Entry of the foregoing and reconsideration of the application identified in caption, as amended, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. §1.111 and in light of the remarks which follow, are respectfully requested.

At the outset, Applicants note with appreciation the indication that claims 1-10 contain allowable subject matter (Official Action at page 3).

By the above amendments, claim 1 has been amended for readability purposes by deleting the phrase "wherein the feed acid used for the crystallization is purified by the following steps". Claim 1 has also been amended for readability purposes to recite the term "comprising", as well as the phrase "purifying the feed acid used for crystallization by the following steps a, b and c". Claim 1 has also been amended for clarification purposes to recite that various recited percentages are weight percentages. Claim 1 has further been amended for readability purposes by deleting several occurrences of the word "the", and by adding the words "a" and "an". Additional minor amendments have been made to claim 1 for readability purposes.

Claim 8 has been amended for clarification purposes by deleting the phrase "preferably 1-3 Tesla", and new claim 11 has been added which is directed to the deleted subject matter. In addition, claim 10 has been amended for clarification purposes to recite that the percentages recited therein are weight percentages.

In the Official Action, claims 1-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for the reasons set forth at page 2 of the Official Action. Without addressing the propriety of this rejection, it is respectfully noted that such rejection is moot in light of the amendments to claim 1 discussed above. Accordingly, withdrawal of the §112, second paragraph, rejection is respectfully requested.

From the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order, and such action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any questions concerning this paper or the application in general, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: June 10, 2004

By:   
Roger H. Lee  
Registration No. 46,317

P.O. Box 1404  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404  
(703) 836-6620